



PUEBLO OF ISLETA

P.O. Box 850
ISLETA, NM 87022

Resolution No. 2010-115

Requesting the State of New Mexico to Halt Any Attempt to Eliminate the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department as a State Cabinet Level Department or to Consolidate it with another State Cabinet Level Department

WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Isleta is a federally recognized Indian tribe with inherent governmental powers;

WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Isleta has a government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico;

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department ("NMIAD") is an agency of the State of New Mexico and has a central role in facilitating communication and collaboration among the State of New Mexico's Governor's Office, the other 32 state cabinet departments, and the 22 Indian tribes, Nations and Pueblos including the Pueblo of Isleta, on a wide range of programs and issues affecting Native Americans in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, the State statute that created NMIAD bestowed authority to NMIAD to investigate, study, consider, and act upon the entire subject of Indian conditions and relations within New Mexico, including problems of health, economy, and education; to study the effect of local, state, and federal legislative, executive, and judicial actions on Indian tribes in New Mexico; and to assist in setting policy for all state programs affecting Indian people in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, since its creation, NMIAD has improved tribal government access to communication, collaboration, and state resources by advocating for the promulgation of the following state laws: the State-Tribal Collaboration Act, the Tribal Notification of Subdivision Act, the Tribal Infrastructure Act, and the Indian Education Act.

WHEREAS, NMIAD has helped to create a process of tracking and clearing backlogged capital outlay awards to Indian tribes in New Mexico and has also led efforts to address tribal concerns over Medicaid funding cuts.

WHEREAS, NMIAD has supported the Pueblo of Isleta by providing contract dollars and funding oversight for tobacco cessation programs, Behavioral Health programs, and a number of important projects through the Tribal Infrastructure Fund. To date, the Pueblo of Isleta has received Tribal Infrastructure funding commitments for an Educational Complex, a Long-Term Elder Care Planning, a Judicial Complex, five (5) park improvements, the Recreation Center in support of Diabetes prevention, a Veteran's Center planning and design, the Isleta Village Proper water main replacement, police units, and a public library.

WHEREAS, all these projects are contracted between the Pueblo of Isleta and NMIAD;

WHEREAS, since NMIAD was made a cabinet-level department, the Pueblo of Isleta has been given a specific point of contact for facilitated government-to-government negotiations with the State of New Mexico and has a seat at the table where decisions affecting the entire State are being made;

WHEREAS, State House Bill 237 (Laws 2010, Ch. 101) created the Government Restructuring Task Force to study consolidation or elimination of state programs ("Task Force");

WHEREAS, the Task Force may be considering the consolidation or elimination of NMIAD as a cabinet-level department;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds it is in the best interest of the Pueblo of Isleta to request the Task Force, the State Governor's Office, and the State Legislature to halt any attempt to eliminate NMIAD as a State cabinet-level department or to consolidate it with another State cabinet-level department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council expresses strong and unequivocal support for keeping NMIAD as a stand-alone, cabinet-level department within the State of New Mexico.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council strongly opposes any effort by the Task Force, the State Governor's Office, or the State Legislature to combine NMIAD with another State cabinet-level department or to otherwise reduce it from a State cabinet-level department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council urges the Task Force to continue to support NMIAD as a State cabinet-level department and not combine it with another State cabinet-level department.

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Pueblo of Isleta Governor to do all that is necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the Pueblo of Isleta, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Pueblo of Isleta Tribal Council at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of September, 2010, with a quorum present, with 9 voting for, 0 opposing, and 0 abstaining.


Tribal Council President


Pueblo of Isleta Governor

ATTEST:

Tribal Council Secretary